Application No.: Not Yet Assigned Docket No.: HO-P03082US0

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A palatable, nutritionally complete vegetarian food for pet mammals, including a nutritionally complete, preferably low-moisture, vegetarian kibble which incorporates a non-meat based flavour-enhancing additive, said additive including hydrolyzed vegetable protein and xylose, wherein the ratio of hydrolyzed vegetable protein to xylose is between 15:1 and 40:1 on a dry mass basis.

 (Currently amended) The pet food of claim 1, wherein the flavour-enhancing additive additionally includes one or more materials selected from a group eomprising consisting of glucose, garlic powder and nature-identical non-meat-based chicken flavouring.

3. (Original) The pet food of claim 2, wherein the flavour-enhancing additive includes the following materials in the following approximate mass proportions: hydrolyzed vegetable protein solids at between 1.5 % and 4.0%; xylose at between 0.05 % and 0.5 %; nature-identical non-meat based chicken flavouring at between 1.0% and 5.0 %; glucose at between 5 % and 15 %; garlic powder at between 0.2% and 1.0%.

4. (Currently amended) The pet food of any preceding claim\_1, wherein the flavour-enhancing additive is diluted in water to form a sprayable solution, and is incorporated in said kibble via spraying.

5. (Original) The pet food of claim 4, wherein said spray is added to the kibbles at a mass rate that provides an addition rate of the additive solids to the kibble of between about 6kg to about 12kg of additive per 1000kg of kibble on a dry mass basis.

6. (Original) The pet food of claim 5, wherein said spray is added to the kibbles at a mass rate that provides an addition rate of the additive solids to the kibble of between about 8kg to about 10kg of additive per 1000kg of kibble on a dry mass basis.

7. (Currently amended) The pet food of any preceding\_claim\_4, wherein the diluted additive is heated to between about 80°C to about 100°C for between about 10 to about 15 minutes prior to being sprayed on to the kibble.

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- 8. (Original) A flavour-enhancing additive for nutritionally complete vegetarian pet mammal foods, said additive including hydrolyzed vegetable protein and xylose, wherein the ratio of hydrolyzed vegetable protein to xylose is between 15:1 and 40:1 on a dry mass basis.
- 9. (Original) The additive of claim 8, wherein the additive additionally including one or more materials selected from a group eomprising consisting of glucose, garlic powder and nature-identical non-meat-based chicken flavouring.
- 10. (Original) The additive of claim 9, wherein the additive includes the following materials in the following approximate mass proportions: hydrolyzed vegetable protein solids at between 1.5% and 4.0%; xylose at between 0.05% and 0.5%; nature-identical non-meat-based chicken flavouring at between 1.0% and 5.0%; glucose at between 5% and 15%; garlic powder at between 0.2% and 1.0%.
- 11. (Currently amended) The additive of any of claims 8, 9 or 10, wherein the flavour- enhancing additive is diluted in water to form a sprayable solution.
- 12. (Original) The additive of claim 11, wherein said solution is heated to between about 80°C to about 1 00°C for between about 10 to about 15 minutes.
- 13. (Currently amended) A method of enhancing the flavour of nutritionally complete vegetarian pet mammals foods, said method including the steps of: producing a low moisture, vegetarian pet food kibble; and adding to the kibble a flavour-enhancing additive according to any of claims 8-to 12.
- 14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the additive is added to the kibbles at a mass rate that provides an addition rate of the additive solids to the kibble of between about 6kg to about 12kg of additive per 1000kg of kibble on a dry mass basis.
- 15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the additive is added to the kibbles at a mass rate that provides an addition rate of the additive solids to the kibble of between about 8kg to about 10kg of additive per 1000kg of kibble on a dry mass basis.
- 16. (Currently amended) The method of any of claims 13-to-15, wherein the additive is incorporated in said kibble via spraying.

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